



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/792,140	03/04/2004	Michael Tristram		6086

7590 07/27/2004
PLANTHAVEN INC (GEOFFREY NEEDHAM)
PO BOX 3056
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93130-3056

EXAMINER	
BELL, KENT L	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1661	

DATE MAILED: 07/27/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/792,140

Applicant(s)

TRISTRAM, MICHAEL

Examiner

Kent L. Bell

Art Unit

1661

*-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --***Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on application filed 3/4/04
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 3/4/04 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____.

Detailed Action

Objection to the Disclosure

37 CFR 1.163

The following is a quotation of section (a) of 37 CFR 1.163:

(a) The specification must contain as full and complete a disclosure as possible of the plant and the characteristics thereof that distinguish the same over related known varieties, and its antecedents, and must particularly point out where and in what manner the variety of plant has been asexually reproduced. In the case of a newly found plant, the specification must particularly point out the location and character of the area where the plant was discovered.

35 USC 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

As specific to United States Plant Patent applications, the specifics of 37 CFR 1.164 (reproduced below) are controlling:

The claim shall be in formal terms to the new and distinct variety of the specified plant as described and illustrated, and may also recite the principal distinguishing characteristics. More than one claim is not permitted.

Detailed Action

In plant applications filed under 35 U.S.C 161, the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112 are limited. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 162:

No plant patent shall be declared invalid for noncompliance with section 112 of this title if the description is as complete as is reasonably possible. The claim in the specification shall be in formal terms to the plant shown and described.

The disclosure is objected to under 35 CFR 1.163(a) and under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification presents less than a full, clear, and complete botanical description of the plant and the characteristics which define same per se and which distinguish the plant from related known cultivars and antecedents.

More Specifically:

A. Page 1, lines 22-24, Applicant states the instant plant was observed as a single plant within a batch of plants. However, applicant has not stated whether the instant plant was a naturally occurring whole plant mutation or an induced whole plant mutation. Applicant should set forth in the specification whether the instant plant was naturally occurring or induced. If naturally occurring applicant should state --a naturally whole plant mutation--. If induced applicant should set forth in the specification the methodology used to arrive at the instant plant. The origin of the plant must be unambiguously set forth.

Detailed Action

B. Page 2, line 30, Applicant states the instant plant's flowers are "dark violet-blue" but has previously stated the instant plant's flowers are "dark blue" at line 1 of the same page. Further, applicant states "violet-blue" in the abstract. These recitations are contradictory. Correction and/or clarification is necessary.

C. Page 3, lines 25-27, Applicant should set forth in the specification the age of the plants described.

D. Page 4, lines 2 and 3, Applicant states the instant plant is a sport. Applicant should set forth information as indicated above in "A".

E. Page 6, lines 12 and 13, Applicant sets forth flower dimensions. However, the dimensions set forth are not understood. It is unclear what portion of the flower is being measured when applicant states length. It is also unclear whether applicant is setting forth a corolla tube length or width. It is further unclear what applicant means by widest part of petals is 7 mm in width when applicant has stated petal width is 3-5 mm on line 16 of the same page. Typically flower diameter and depth and tube length and diameter are set forth. Applicant should set forth in the specification the typical and observed flower diameter and depth and tube length and diameter.

Detailed Action

F. Page 6, lines 14-22, Applicant should set forth in the specification additional information relative to the instant plant's petals including the typical and observed petal apex descriptor.

G. Page 6, line 28, Applicant states "Internodes: .75 cm.". It is uncertain what internodes applicant is describing. Correction and/or clarification is necessary.

H. Page 7, lines 8-12, Applicant should set forth in the specification additional information relative to the instant plant's sepals including the typical and observed sepal shape and margin and base descriptors.

I. If produced, applicant should set forth in the specification information relative to the instant plant's bracts including that typical and observed bract number, length, width, shape, apex, base, and margin descriptors and coloration (both surfaces) with reference to the employed color chart.

Detailed Action

Future Correspondence

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Kent L. Bell whose telephone number is (571) 272-0973. The Examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 6:00 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Andrew Wang, can be reached at (571) 272-0811.

The fax phone number for the group is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1600.

K. L. Bell

KENT BELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Kent L. Bell